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New Intelligence Role Seen for CIA Chief

President Carter is expected to announce today a reorganization of the nation's intelligence community, including an expanded role for Central Intelligence Agency Director Stansfield Turner.

Administration sources did not describe Turner's expanded role to be that of the nation's "intelligence czar." But they said he is expected to be granted additional powers as a result of the reorganization, especially involving the budgets of intelligence agencies.

Turner has advocated turning over control of the National Security Agency and the National Reconnaissance Organization, both now under the Defense Department, to a new Director of National Intelligence. Defense Secretary Harold Brown opposed this plan.

Carter is expected to propose creation of a new Cabinet level post of Director of National Intelligence—likely to be Turner—with overall control of the CIA, the Pentagon intelligence agencies and others in the intelligence field. But day-to-day operations of the NSA and NRO are expected to remain in the Defense Department under the plan.

Sources also said the reorganization plan will call for the creation of a top-level committee—composed of the Secretaries of State and Defense, the CIA director and the head of the National Security Council—to set intelligence policy.

Pentagon sources described Brown as content with his role in the proposed reorganized intelligence community.